

Weather Forecast

Cloudy today with high in mid-60s. Occasional rain tonight, low about 45. Partly cloudy and colder tomorrow. (Full report on Page A-2.)

Midnight, 49	6 a.m., 50	11 a.m., 58
2 a.m., 49	8 a.m., 55	Noon, 59
4 a.m., 52	10 a.m., 56	1 p.m., 61

Late New York Markets, Page A-27.

The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

Guide for Readers

Page	Page
After Dark C-6	Food A-17
Amusements C-4	Obituary A-26
Comics C-10-11	Radios C-11
Editorial A-14	Sports C-13
Editorial Articles A-15	Women's B-3-6
Finance A-27	Section B-3-6

An Associated Press Newspaper

97th Year. No. 351.

Phone ST. 5000

★

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1949—FIFTY-SIX PAGES.

City Home Delivery, Daily and Sunday, \$1.20 a Month; When 5 Days, \$1.50. Night Final Edition, \$1.30 and \$1.40 per Month. 5 CENTS

MacArthur Asks Probe of 376,000 Soviet-Held Japs

Denounces 'Callous' Russian 'Hypocrisy' On Missing POWs

By the Associated Press

TOKYO, Dec. 22.—Gen. MacArthur today denounced "callous" Soviet "hypocrisy" and started a move for independent investigation of the fate of 376,000 missing Japanese war prisoners captured by the Russians.

He said he had requested Washington to begin negotiations for an investigation either by a neutral nation or the International Red Cross.

The American occupation commander issued one of his strongest attacks against the Soviets after a Russian walkout of the Allied Council for Japan yesterday. This was followed by renewed Russian charges that the United States was assisting the revival of Japanese fascism.

200 Japs Besiege Mission.

The Soviet mission was under determined siege by 200 Japanese representatives of anxious relatives of missing war prisoners. They were told the Soviet answer to requests for information on further repatriation "appeared in this morning's papers." Presumably this referred to a letter charging "oppression" by the Japanese government which Lt. Gen. Kuzma Derevyanko, head of the Soviet mission, addressed to Gen. MacArthur.

Gen. MacArthur said the letter showed "A callousness of hypocrisy I cannot fail to denounce." He termed it a smokescreen to distract attention from the repatriation issue.

W. J. Sebald, head of the occupation diplomatic section, earlier had termed the letter "unadulterated twaddle."

The Japanese crowd around the Soviet mission became clamorous at times. Once Russian guards pushed them back when they attempted to enter the compound. Appointment Kept.

The delegation went to the Embassy to keep what its leaders said was an appointment made last week with Soviet officials who promised answers to questions on repatriation. The Japanese said they represented the "Tokyo chapter of the Council for Acceleration of the Repatriation of Japanese Abroad."

When the Japanese men began to shout and the women to weep, guards refused them entrance and said the Russian officials they asked to see were unavailable.

Later, however, eight members of the delegation were admitted. They remained in about 30 minutes and said they had been told to return again December 28 by an unidentified Soviet official.

But two hours after that the Japanese were still before the embassy gate. They evidently planned to remain there throughout the cold night and longer.

U. S. Campaign Intensified.

Gen. MacArthur's latest and strongest blast against the Soviets highlighted an intensified American campaign on the repatriation question. It began last week when Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida again appealed to Gen. MacArthur for aid in winning world opinion for the prompt return of prisoners still in custody.

Mr. Sebald told the Council yesterday, after the Russian walkout, that probably 374,041 of the missing Japanese prisoners had died in Soviet prison camps. He read a lengthy account of the (See RUSSIANS, Page A-3.)

Col. Ole Reistad Dies; Noted Norwegian Skier

By the Associated Press

OSLO, Dec. 22.—Col. Ole Reistad, 51, commander in chief of Norway's Northern Air Command, died today at his home near Oslo.

He had been selected as leader of the Norwegian team to world ski championships at Lake Placid and Aspen, Col., early next year.

Col. Reistad served as chief of the Norwegian air force training camp "Little Norway," at Toronto, Canada, during the war.

Two Carry Water To New York on Trip From Britain

By the Associated Press

LONDON, Dec. 22.—Add British exports to America: Water. Mindful of the drought in New York, Blackie Kronfeld and Ted Malone carried two hot water bottles full aboard their westbound plane today.

"We're taking it so we can have a shave," explained Mr. Malone. "We arrive there on 'dry Friday.'"

39% of Washington Ball Club Stock Is Sold to Syndicate

Griffith Says Sale To Jachym Doesn't Affect Control

Approximately 39 per cent of the Washington Baseball Club stock has been sold to a syndicate of seven men, headed by John James Jachym of Jamestown, N. Y., it was learned today.

The stock purchased by the syndicate was a block which passed from the late William E. Richardson, wealthy Philadelphia importer who was treasurer of the Nats, to his late brother, George. On the latter's death the stock passed to his son, William E. Richardson, now treasurer of the club.

Clark Griffith, president of the Nats, admitted the transaction took place last week but insisted control of the club is not involved in the infusion of new blood and new money.

"Mr. Jachym told me they wanted the stock strictly as an investment and would co-operate with me in the operation of the club," Mr. Griffith said.

The syndicate headed by Mr. Jachym, a former Marine Corps major who has been serving as assistant to Ray Kennedy, farm director of the Detroit Tigers, purchased 7,851 of 20,000 outstanding shares. The transaction was believed to have involved more than \$500,000, based on the latest quotation of the Nats' stock at \$65 a share.

Mr. Griffith anticipated no change in the operation of the Washington club. The Nats' president, who also owns 39 per cent of the stock, said Mr. Jachym convinced him there would be no attempt on the part of the new stockholders to acquire control by purchasing other blocks of stock.

Frederic J. Ball of the Pierson

U. S. Tightens Controls On Export of Scientific Information to Russia

Will Protect Businesses Which Refuse to Ship Technical Secrets

By the Associated Press

The Government today tightened up its machinery for keeping scientific and technical data from going to Russia.

The Commerce Department announced that "in exceptional cases" it will impose an outright ban on export of technical information which is "significant to the national security."

The obvious object—though not stated in the official statement—is to keep such information from reaching the Soviet.

The main aim is to help a private firm withhold matter affecting national security when the firm has a contract that would be breached by refusing to make shipments.

Would Relieve Shippers. This is the background: Recently, the department set up a "voluntary control plan" over export of information. It asked Americans to get an opinion from it before exporting data which might have a security value.

Some firms requested advice and were given opinions against sending the data abroad. Later, they reported they would like to withhold it, but feared law suits for breach of contract.

The imposition of bans on export is intended to relieve these persons from danger of suit, since they can show the shipment was forbidden by United States Government action.

No bar is likely to be imposed except in a case where the prospective shipper of information takes his problem to the Commerce Department.

Censorship Plan Denied. Officials pointed out no complete ban could be imposed unless there was a censorship on all mail leaving the United States. They stressed there is no intention whatsoever of setting up such a censorship.

Neither the voluntary control plan nor the prospective bans in "exceptional cases" will supplant current provisions against export of technical data classified by the Government as security or secret matter. Other Government regulations will continue to take care of these cases.

The department said the plan does not cover exports of advertising catalogues or pamphlets, assembly or operating directions, or other information of this type generally available to the trade or public.

The plan does cover "advanced technical development, technology, information, and 'know-how,' including prototypes and special installations."

There is nothing in the plan to keep Russian agents from buying Government documents covering patents. The Patent Office must sell them to all comers.

Cold Thwarts Suicides. BERLIN, Dec. 22 (AP).—Police picked up a nude and shivering couple scurrying out of the icy waters of a Grunewald forest lake. "We were going to commit suicide together," the man said, "but the water was too cold."

Load on Airliner Miscalculated, Witness Says

Capital Agent Tells Inquiry of Mistake In Crash Fatal to 6



JOHN JAMES JACHYM.
—AP Wirephoto.

and Ball law firm, who handled the transaction, revealed that Mr. Jachym first attempted to acquire the Richardson stock in 1945 but couldn't swing the deal at that time.

Mr. Ball said Mr. Jachym is the principal figure in the syndicate, but he refused to identify the other six purchasers. "Financing of the deal has not been completed," said Mr. Ball, "and until negotiations are completed as to how the shares will be split I can't reveal names."

George Richardson died in August, 1948, and the Washington baseball club stock was part of his estate, administered by his son, William. Mr. Griffith was reported to have been advised that he would obtain first opportunity to buy the stock after George Richardson's death.

Reached by phone at his Jamestown office, Mr. Jachym (Continued on Page C-1, Col. 8.)

U. S. and Eight Allies Agree on Distribution Of Billion in Arms Aid

Objections of British To Two Points in Plan Revealed by Acheson

By the Associated Press

The United States has reached "substantially complete agreement" with its western European allies on the exact weapons each of the European allies will receive under the \$1,000,000,000 American arms aid program.

This was announced yesterday by Secretary of State Acheson, who, however, disclosed officially that the United States has encountered some British "worries" on the conditions under which the arms will be given.

Mr. Acheson did not specify the particular objections which British officials have raised in connection with the agreements which each of the eight recipient nations must sign to get a share from America's arsenal.

Two Provisions Questioned. From other sources it was learned that the British have questioned two provisions. In one they would be required to reaffirm the commitment they have already made in the Atlantic Treaty to do whatever they can to aid other pact members in strengthening the defense of the North Atlantic area. The other provision would limit use of the arms outside the North Atlantic area.

On the first point the British reportedly asked whether the new mutual aid commitment would require them to impose new burdens on their dollar-short economy in order to provide British arms to other Atlantic allies.

The American reply is reported to have been that nothing in the arms aid agreement would commit Britain to do anything beyond what it is already pledged to do under the Atlantic Pact.

Proposal to Be Revised. On the other disputed provision it is understood that the United States has agreed to revise its initial proposal to say that none of the American arms furnished to the European countries could be transferred by those countries without the consent of this Government.

In London, a spokesman said the British Foreign Office has under study a revised draft of the arms-aid agreement.

"The American State Department made important changes in (See ARMS, Page A-2.)"

Christmas Tree Fire Injures Girl and Destroys Gifts

A 14-year-old girl was injured and a family lost all its Christmas gifts today when the District's first Christmas tree fire of the season destroyed the tree and the gifts piled beneath it.

Molly Wood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Greg Wood, 1314 Irving street N.W., was burned on the hand in the fire that burst out when she plugged in the lights "to see what the tree looked like."

Firemen of No. 11 Engine Company quickly extinguished the blaze. Molly was treated at the scene by firemen.

Capital Agent Tells Inquiry of Mistake In Crash Fatal to 6

A "miscalculation" by a ground operations officer resulted in overloading a DC-3 airliner before it took off on its ill-fated flight which brought death to six persons in a crash here December 12, an inquiry was told today.

Lee G. Rainey, senior operations agent for Capital Airlines at Newport News, testified that as a result of his miscalculation, the manifest given Capt. W. J. Davis, pilot of the airliner, showed the plane to be a ton-and-a-half lighter than it actually was.

Members of the investigating board did not question Mr. Rainey as to what effect if any, his error in calculating the weight of the airliner had on the plane's maneuverability. It is expected that they will explore this question later in the day when pilots and other flight experts take the stand.

Mr. Rainey said Capt. Davis, who was killed in the crash, was told that the gross take-off weight of the plane was 22,450 pounds. Actually the plane weighed 25,450 pounds when it took off for Washington.

Exceeded Safety Regulations. As a result of the miscalculation the plane exceeded Civil Aeronautics Administration safety limits by 120 pounds, it was brought out at the hearing.

Capital Airlines spokesmen said the 120-pound overload was quickly dissipated by gasoline consumption and that it was within CAA safety limits long before it came in for a hard landing through the darkness and fog at Washington Airport.

A mechanical calculator went awry when Mr. Rainey was figuring the gross weight of the airliner, company officials said. The error was discovered when the manifest was rechecked after the crash.

The plane crashed near National Airport and 17 persons were injured. A Federal Board of Inquiry was convened today to inquire into the cause of the crash.

Asked for Weather Conditions. George A. Paull, Capital Airlines dispatcher, told the six-man panel conducting the inquiry for the Civil Aeronautics Board that Capt. Davis called for weather conditions at Baltimore while he was circling about the thick fog above National Airport, but was told to remain in this area because it appeared the fog was lifting.

Weather conditions were clear at Baltimore when Capt. Davis called for a radio report, Mr. Paull said, but shortly thereafter the ceiling lowered and made landings there impossible.

Weather Bureau Observers Marvin Hunter and Harold Choat, who were stationed at the airport, testified that the forecasts which were broadcast at half-hour intervals to pilots estimated visibility at the airport at between a mile and a half and three-fourths of a mile. Pilots were told that there was a 300-500 foot ceiling at the airport, but that "near zero conditions" prevailed from time to time when river fog drifted over the field.

10 Planes in Traffic Pattern. Harry Barnes, senior controller in the National Airport control tower, said at least 10 airliners were in the traffic pattern over the Washington area when Capt. Davis entered the pattern. Three of the airliners subsequently moved on to land at alternate airports because of the thick fog over the river in the vicinity of National Airport, Mr. Barnes testified.

Capt. Davis' airliner came un- (See AIR CRASH, Page A-2.)

Summery Winter Continues With 61 Degrees Registered

Washington temperature went to 61 degrees at 1 p.m. today, but it has a long climb to equal the record for this date, the Weather Bureau announced.

Record December 22 was 72 degrees established in 1889. The forecast calls for cloudy and possible rain late today or tonight with a low of about 45 degrees tonight.

Wage Law May End Delivery Of Telegrams by Messengers

Delivery of telegrams by personal messenger is on the way out unless exemptions are granted under the new minimum wage law, a Labor Department hearing was told today.

The hearing is on an application by the Western Union Telegraph Co. to hire messengers at 65 cents an hour, 10 cents less than the minimum wage law allows.

William E. Seward, company attorney, and other representatives said that if the new law applies to foot and bicycle messengers, substitute methods of delivery will be used.

They are asking for the sub-



Cleveland Is Tied Up When Transit Workers Vote Surprise Strike

Union President's Plea And State Law Ignored; Vacation Time Is Issue

By the Associated Press

CLEVELAND, Dec. 22.—Strikers stalled Cleveland's city-owned buses and streetcars today, forcing thousands of commuters and last-minute Christmas shoppers to resort to hitch hiking, taxis or footwork.

Share the ride plans were quickly pressed into use. The city's taxi companies, which operate only 650 vehicles, were swamped with calls.

Bumper-to-bumper traffic was common throughout the downtown area and Traffic Commissioner John R. Sammon estimated that 50,000 more automobiles than usual were on the streets.

Less than one-fifth of the AFL transit union's 4,200 members in Local 268 voted a strike just before last midnight. They want the Cleveland Transit System to continue its policy of 96-hour-12-day—paid vacations.

The vote was 496 to 287 against deferring the walkout until January 16. This means complying with a midnight strike deadline.

Officials and Law Ignored. In making this decision, the unionists ignored: (1) a plea by their local president, Thomas P. Meaney, to hold off until the January 16 date; and (2) the Ferguson Act, an Ohio law that provides heavy penalties for public employees who strike.

"Apparently," said Mr. Meaney, "these men are not disturbed about that bit of legislation."

The transit system contended the strike was unauthorized. CTS General Manager Donald C. Hyde said the union's constitution stipulates that a strike vote must be submitted to all members and that a two-thirds majority is necessary to pass the action.

Even then, he said, the strike must be authorized by the union's international office in Chicago. The strike of the main means of public transportation in the nation's sixth largest city—with more than 1,000,000 residents—came as such a surprise that Mayor Thomas A. Burke had to be roused from bed.

Obviously angry, Mayor Burke hustled down to City Hall and opened a meeting with Mr. Meaney and Harry C. Lang, local secretary. He called the strike a "complete violation" of a promise by (See CLEVELAND, Page A-3.)

Guy Mason Visits Office At District Building

Commissioner Guy Mason, who has been away from his office since the first of October because of illness, dropped in at the District Building today to extend holiday greetings to his colleagues. Mr. Mason is expected to return to his desk about the first of the year.

New Baby Hippo, Gum Drop VIII, Doing Fine at Zoo

A new baby hippo has been born at the Zoo, and mother, father and eight-pound youngster are doing fine, Dr. William M. Mann, Zoo director, announced today.

The baby has been named Gum Drop VIII and will receive visitors

Picture of Gum Drop VIII, the Zoo's Newest Attraction. Page A-3

in the elephant house. It is the eighth baby hippo to arrive at the Zoo in about eight years. Dr. Mann said. The name originated when a little girl remarked after inspecting the first arrival: "Doesn't it look just like a gum drop." It did, Dr. Mann says.

The mother, Matilda, was obtained in the Firestone expedition to Liberia nine years ago. The father, Bill Johnson, was a gift of Harvey Firestone, sr., to the late President Coolidge.

Turkeys Much Lower; Some Drop 20 Cents From 1948 Figure

Large New York Dressed Bring 43; Ready-to-Cook Kinds Sell for 63

Turkeys were selling a lot cheaper today—about 20 cents a pound less—than they were last Christmas when an all-time high price was reached.

A check of large chain stores in the District area revealed that large turkeys, weighing over 22 pounds, could be bought for as little as 43 cents a pound, New York dressed. Pan-ready birds were selling for as little as 63 cents a pound.

Last year at this time housewives were paying 65 to 75 cents for the large birds up to 20 pounds. New York dressed, and from 85 to 98 cents a pound for the pan-ready turkeys.

Poultry men reported the turkeys plentiful in all sizes with the larger birds over 18 pounds generally costing 10 to 12 cents a pound less than the smaller turkeys. The price of turkeys also declined from 2 to 6 cents a pound from the pre-Thanksgiving week.

The large turkeys, over 20 pounds, ranged from 45 cents a pound to 51 cents a pound today; 16 to 20 pound birds, from 49 to 59 cents a pound, and the smaller sizes from 59 to 65 cents a pound, all New York dressed. Turkeys in the smaller sizes ready to cook ranged from 71 to 79 cents a pound.

Cranberries were mostly unchanged from Thanksgiving, but a lot cheaper than last Christmas. A pound of fresh cranberries can be bought for 17 cents now, whereas a year ago a pound cost 25 cents. Two 16-ounce cans of cranberry sauce, which sold for 33 cents last year, can be bought for 29 cents this week.

Holiday menu planners looking for something besides turkey for the main course found hams, pork loin roasts and rib beef roasts costing about the same as a week ago.

Prices of many fresh vegetables were a little lower, including celery, radishes, tomatoes, snap beans, Cabbage, cucumbers, chichory, onions, peas, peppers and spinach.

Nuts for turkey stuffing, fruit cakes, mince pie and the nut bowl were so abundant that the Agriculture Department included them among the most-plentiful foods for the pre-Christmas week. Raisins also were on the list.

Oranges were being featured widely for holiday fare with some (See PRICES, Page A-3.)

Hughes Couple Freed In Counterfeiting Case By Directed Verdict

Benefit From \$137,000 Operation Not Proved By U. S. Judge Rules

Mr. and Mrs. William Hughes today were acquitted of counterfeiting charges in a directed verdict by Judge Alexander Holtzoff.

The directed verdict left only one of five original co-defendants actually on trial. He is Arthur M. Bebar.

The trial started last Monday with five defendants implicated as a counterfeiting ring which manufactured \$137,000 in bogus \$20 bills.

In freeing Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, who live in the 6000 block of Thirteenth street N.W., the judge declared that the Government failed to show that the couple had possession of counterfeit money with any intent to defraud. The judge also said it was not shown that the Hughes couple had benefited in any way from the counterfeiting activities of the alleged ring. He also called attention to the absence of any previous criminal record against the couple.

Tells of Printing Lessons. Testifying in his own defense today, Bebar denied that he had worked with two other defendants, Walter W. Kidwell and Eugene H. Creighton, who pleaded guilty last Monday. Bebar, who lives in the 1000 block of Seventeenth street N.E., testified that his only connection with the other two men was to teach Kidwell the offset printing process by which the bogus money was made.

Bebar declared that after giving Kidwell several lessons in his printing shop in the 2200 block of M street N.W., he lent Kidwell the key to the shop one Sunday early this year. Bebar said that Kidwell had told him he wanted to make "commercial plates" that day.

Defense Counsel John Fitzpatrick contended that that was probably the day that the counterfeit bills were made, all without the knowledge of his client. The case was expected to go to the jury early this afternoon.

The Government rested its case yesterday. Chief witness introduced by Prosecutor Arthur McLaughlin during the session was Creighton, who corroborated earlier testimony of his confessed accomplice, Kidwell. Both men live in the 1300 block of Delaware place N.W.

Both Kidwell and Creighton had said the Hughes couple did not want to become involved in the counterfeiting, although for a while they kept some of the money in their apartment.

3 Teen-Age Boys Seized In Gas Station Robbery

Three teen-age boys from Dundalk, Md., were arrested early today a half-hour after police say they broke into a service station at Laurel.

Laurel police discovered at 2 a.m. on a routine check that Everhart's Service Station had been entered. They notified State police, who broadcast a lookout for a car seen near the service station.

At 2:30 a.m., Trooper George L. Herman spotted the car, and forced it off the road after a 2-mile chase. The youths in the car admitted breaking into the station after police found automobile accessories and a .32-caliber automatic taken from the station, police said.

Arrested and charged with breaking and entering were a 17-year-old boy, Hunter Jeff Epperson, 18, and Joe Marion Sellers, 18, all of Dundalk.

Prince Georges County detectives said they would question the youths in connection with the murder of Winston C. Clay, jr., 18-year-old filling station attendant, at Berwyn, December 6.

Fire 'Hero,' Held After New Blaze, Admits Arson

Briton Re-enacts Scene at Apartments Where He Aroused 9

A British Army sergeant, acclaimed as a hero after arousing nine sleeping residents in a burning building at 2040 S street N.W. last Saturday, today was held for the grand jury on a charge of setting the fire during a period of "mental depression."

The sergeant, John Brian Holmes, 26, assigned as a cook to Gen. Sir William Morgan, commander of the British Joint Services Mission here, was arrested this morning at the scene of two automobile fires. Police said he also admitted setting the auto blazes.

Deputy Fire Marshal Earl J. Atzrott told United States Commissioner Cyril S. Lawrence, when Holmes was arraigned today, that the soldier had admitted setting fire to the S street building. He also re-enacted for police and firemen the manner in which he did it, Mr. Atzrott said.

Held in \$8,000 Bond. Mr. Lawrence ordered Holmes held for grand jury action in \$8,000 bond—\$5,000 for the apartment house fire and \$1,500 each in the auto fires. He also recommended that Holmes be given a mental examination.

In the fire at the S street building, which contains both shops and apartments, Holmes went from door to door arousing the tenants. Firemen rescued two women by ladder from the building.

Mr. Atzrott quoted Holmes as saying he entered the building through the front door and went to the back of the building to a trash storage room. There he held a match to cardboard boxes until they ignited, Mr. Atzrott said he was told.

Went for Cup of Coffee. The soldier was quoted as saying he then left the building and went across the street to a restaurant where he got a cup of coffee. When he had finished drinking his coffee, he went back to the then burning building and ran to the third floor, Mr. Atzrott said, and began hammering on the doors to awaken the residents.

Police and firemen found him in a corridor in a dazed condition a short time later.

He was held by Third Precinct police for more than three hours Saturday morning as an arson suspect. However, he was released with apologies after the tenants of the building identified him as a hero for arousing them.

The story as told by Mr. Atzrott was corroborated by Detective Sergeants Keith G. Gosman and Roy C. Schwab, who also attended today's re-enactment.

Tells of Mental Depression. Mr. Schwab added that Holmes told him he had been "mentally depressed" in recent weeks.

Mr. Lawrence told Holmes: "I understand from the officers in the case that you told them already that you set fire to this property (the building) or that you are implicated in some way."

"Yes, sir," the soldier answered. Mr. Lawrence said he was setting the bond high because he was not permitted to commit him for a mental examination, but "didn't think" he should be at large under the circumstances.

Police Pvt. W. H. Sampson said that Holmes had admitted setting fire to the two automobiles and (See HOLMES, Page A-3.)

Howard Hopson, 66, Utilities Wizard, Dies

By the Associated Press